

Message Text

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TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS STATE 113922

FOL REPEAT BUCHAREST 3428 ACTION SECSTATE INFO GENEVA
DTD 12 MAY.

QUOTE

UNCLAS BUCHAREST 3428

FOR FOREIGN DISASTER RELIEF (OFDA)

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: SWEL RO

SUBJECT: EARTHQUAKE ASSISTANCE: GOR REQUEST FOR \$3 MILLION
IN UNDP ASSISTANCE

1. ON MAY 11, AMBASSADOR VASILE SANDRU OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
MINISTRY AND HEAD OF ROMANIAN COORDINATING GROUP ON FOREIGN
ASSISTANCE RELATED TO MARCH 4 EARTHQUAKE, REQUESTED AMBASSADOR'S
ASSISTANCE IN HAVING US REPRESENTATIVE TO UNDP SUPPORT GOR'S
REQUEST FOR \$3 MILLION IN UNDP EARTHQUAKE RELATED REHABILITA-
TION AND RECONSTRUCTION ASSISTANCE. SANDRU SAID HE BELIEVES
UNDP BOARD WILL REVIEW ROMANIAN REQUEST AT JUNE 6 MEETING.
SANDRU ADVISED THAT FUNDS WOULD BE SPENT IN SIX AREAS:
ASSISTANCE IN BUILDING REHABILITATION; ASSISTANCE TO THE
NATIONAL CENTER OF SEISMOLOGY; ASSISTANCE TO THE NATIONAL
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CENTER OF EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING; ASSISTANCE TO THE BUILDING
INDUSTRY; INDUSTRIAL REHABILITATION ASSISTANCE; AND REHABIL-
ITATION OF THE TELECOMMUNICATION SYSTEM. SANDRU ALSO SAID
THAT UNDP DIRECTOR GENERAL MORSE WILL VISIT ROMANIA BEGINNING
MAY 21.

2. AMBASSADOR SAID THAT WE WILL TRANSMIT GOR REQUEST TO

WASHINGTON. HE ADDED THAT EMBOFFS HAD MET ON MAY 10 WITH LOCAL UNDP REPRESENTATIVE DEVARAJAN TO DISCUSS UNDP EARTHQUAKE RELATED ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. EMBOFFS RAISED PROBLEM OF OVERLAPPING REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE BY GOR OF VARIOUS DONOR COUNTRIES AND MULTILATERAL AGENCIES. AMBASSADOR TOLD SANDRU THIS IS OF PRIME CONCERN TO US. SANDRU REPLIED THAT GOR HAS ATTEMPTED MINIMIZE OVERLAPPING BUT AS ROMANIA'S NEEDS WERE SO GREAT THERE IS ROOM FOR ASSISTANCE IN SAME CATEGORIES FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.

3. FOLLOWING MEETING WITH DEVARAJAN, EMBOFFS GIVEN COPY OF REPORT ON UNDP APRIL FIELD TRIP TO ROMANIA, WHICH REVIEWS GOR REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE (COPIES OF WHICH BEING FORWARDED TO OFDA AND EUR/EE). REPORT GAVE FOLLOWING BREAKDOWN OF HOW \$3,000,000 (OF WHICH \$250,000 ALREADY GRANTED ROMANIA) WOULD BE USED:

A) BUILDING REHABILITATION - \$73,800 GRANTED, \$69,000 PROPOSED. ALL FOR EQUIPMENT.

B) NATIONAL SEISMOLOGY CENTER - \$1,158,000 PROPOSED, OF WHICH \$950,000 IS FOR EQUIPMENT.

C) NATIONAL EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING CENTER - \$173,000 GRANTED (OF WHICH \$140,000 FOR EQUIPMENT), \$493,000 PROPOSED (\$400,000 FOR EQUIPMENT).

D) BUILDING INDUSTRY - \$800,000 PROPOSED (ALL FOR EQUIPMENT) . UNCLASSIFIED

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E) INDUSTRIAL REHABILITATION - \$95,000 PROPOSED, ALL FOR EQUIPMENT.

F) TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM (MOBILE EXCHANGES) - \$135,000 PROPOSED, WITH \$130,000 FOR EQUIPMENT. ABOVE BREAKDOWN INDICATES THAT 88.6 PERCENT OF UNDP PROPOSED AND GRANTED ASSISTANCE WOULD BE USED TO PURCHASE IMPORTED EQUIPMENT WITH THE REMAINDER BEING SPENT ON CONSULTANT FEES AND FELLOWSHIPS.

4. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH WE CONCERNED WITH GOR REQUESTING OVERLAPPING ASSISTANCE FROM VARIOUS SOURCES, WE AGREE WITH GOR POSITION THAT ROMANIA'S NEEDS IN AFTERMATH OF EARTHQUAKE IN ABOVE CATEGORIES ARE SUFFICIENTLY GREAT SO THAT THERE WILL PROBABLY NOT BE DUPLICATION IF SIMILAR ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY MORE THAN ONE SOURCE.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: IN VIEW OF SCHEDULED VISIT OF UNDP DIRECTOR GENERAL MORSE, PLEASE PROVIDE US BY MAY 20 WITH

INDICATION OF US POSITION ON ROMANIAN REQUEST AND ANY OTHER
INFORMATION WHICH WOULD BE USEFUL FOR POSSIBLE EMBASSY MEETING
WITH MORSE.
BARNES

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Drafter: EJCHESKY:JBS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
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